

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 625

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Tennessee Speech and Debate Society on an exceptional debate season.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize those outstanding students who bring honor to Tennessee as members of academic teams and act as ambassadors for our State through successful academic competition; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) Tennessee Speech and Debate Society is one such team, which has grown in membership and continued its tradition of success this year; and

WHEREAS, the team has competed in over fifty tournaments in the past few years, winning multiple state and regional titles, while in pursuit of its seventh national title in five years; and

WHEREAS, the UTK Tennessee Speech and Debate Society currently ranks second in the International Public Debate Association (IDPA), which makes it the top public university speech and debate team in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the UTK Tennessee Speech and Debate Society is the only student-run team in the IPDA circuit, taking on all the responsibilities and duties of a full-time coach while meeting or exceeding other team's successes; and

WHEREAS, the UTK Tennessee Speech and Debate Society is composed of thirty-five members who represent a variety of majors, from political science to business to computer science; and

WHEREAS, the active members of the 2017-2018 UTK Tennessee Speech and Debate Society are Michael Berry; Stephen Boyette, Senior Advisor; Maria Bruce; Michael Chambliss;

Andrew Chapman; Kenneth Cody, Vice President; Christian Cohen; Symantha Gregorash, Secretary; Clark Hathaway; Adam Holland; Nathaniel Hooper; Anna House, Fundraising Chair; Robert Cole Hughes; Karah Jackson; Mitch Jones; Rick Kieu; Codey King; Jonathan Lane; Jason Liang; Nickolas Mucci; Anthony Novoa; Denizhan Pak, Senior Advisor; Jesse Parks; Cole Pawlaczyk, Media Coordinator; Diana Pope; Cameron Reid; Jessica Rice; Caroline Rogers, Treasurer; Samuel Ruwe; Will Shaw; Mickayla Stogsdill, President; Randi Thompson; Logan West; Skylar Wilmore; and Kevin Ye; and

WHEREAS, the members of the UTK Tennessee Speech and Debate Society have demonstrated extraordinary intellect and poise during the debate season, bringing great pride to their families, their school, and the citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and congratulate these exemplary students on their many accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the members and leadership of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Tennessee Speech and Debate Society on their outstanding debate season and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.